DC STEM FAIR
Science Technology Engineering Math

TEAM Non-Engineering Project Judging Scorecard*

Student's Name:	**Grade Level:**
Project Category:	**Project #:**
Project Title:	
Judge's Name:	**Final Score:**

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
Creative Ability (20 points)					
1. The topic idea is original and/or innovative.	5	4	3	2	1
2. The approach to solving the problem is creative.	5	4	3	2	1
3. The student's research helped answer a question in a creative way.	5	4	3	2	1
4. The overall display significantly contributes to the project (i.e., grammar, spelling, formatting, etc. do not significantly detract from its meaning).	5	4	3	2	1
Experimental Design Process (35 points)					
1. Presented a question that could be answered through experimentation.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Accessed a minimum of three, age-appropriate sources for background research, addressing all key scientific concepts of the projects.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Developed a hypothesis based on the background reading and identified independent and dependent variables.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Developed a good experimental procedure for testing the hypothesis, including use of control variables.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Demonstrated ability to carry out the experimental procedure to an age-appropriate level of precision.	5	4	3	2	1

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
6. Solved problems that arose with the experimental procedure. If necessary, redesigned the procedure and tried experiment(s) again.	5	4	3	2	1
7. Investigated an original question or used an original approach or technique.	5	4	3	2	1
Data Collection & Conclusions (25 points)					
1. Ran a sufficient number of trials (if practical).	5	4	3	2	1
2. Derived conclusions from appropriately organized and summarized data.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Clearly related conclusions back to the hypothesis, key scientific concepts, and background research.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Included a clear visual representation of data collected/observations made (e.g., graphs, charts, pictures, diagrams).	5	4	3	2	1
5. Data collected was appropriately analyzed (for quantitative data: calculation of mean or T-test, for example; for qualitative data: examination of possible patterns, themes, or relationships).	5	4	3	2	1
Skill (10 points)					
1. The project appears to represent the team's own work (i.e., the project is not a reflection of the work of an adult with the students offering minimal input).	5	4	3	2	1
2. Necessary scientific skill is demonstrated by the use of appropriate equipment and other materials. This includes appropriate safety precautions.	5	4	3	2	1
Teamwork (10 points)					
1. There is evidence that each team member is familiar with all aspects of the project and was fully involved with the project.	5	4	3	2	1
2. The level of complexity and quantity of the final work is indicative of a team effort (i.e., the project could **not** have easily been completed by a sole student).	5	4	3	2	1

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
Presentation/Interview (15 points)					
1. The team's presentation/interview provides a thorough picture of the entire project as a whole.	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
2. The team communicates effectively about the project (e.g., the team provides logical responses to questions and can defend the experimental design choices and conclusions that they made).	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
3. The team's lab notebook provides ample evidence of how they thought through the experimental process and collected data.	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
Grand Award Recommendation					
Do you recommend this project for consideration of a Grand Award? (circle your choice)	**Yes**			**No**	
Final Comments/Recommendations for Improvement:					
Total Score: _____/115					

*Adapted from Science Buddies (http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair projects/Teacher_ScienceFairGuide_JudgingScorecard_Engineering.pdf).